

## Message Text

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E.O. 11652: N/A  
TAGS: EAID, TPHY, NI  
SUBJECT: USGS REIMBURSABLE DEVELOPMENT ASSISTANCE TO NIGERIAN  
FEDERAL CAPITAL DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY (FCDA)

REF: STATE 125240

1. FCDA EXECUTIVE SECRETARY ALHAJI A. KOKO TOLD EMBOFF  
JUNE 13 THAT HE ORIGINALLY WANTED TO HAVE AN EXPERT IN  
GEOLOGY AND HYDROLOGY TO ADVISE WHETHER WORK PROGRAMS AND  
TERMS OF REFERENCE SUBMITTED BY VARIOUS CONSULTANTS WERE  
UP TO STANDARD. THIS WAS ESPECIALLY TRUE WHEN INTENTION  
WAS TO STUDY ENTIRE FEDERAL CAPITAL TERRITORY (FCT). HOW-  
EVER, THINGS HAVE CHANGED.

2. FIRST, RECENT FMG BUDGET CUTBACKS AND TIME CONSTRAINTS  
HAVE MADE IT NECESSARY TO CONCENTRATE ONLY ON THE ACTUAL  
SITE OF THE NEW CITY RATHER THAN THE WHOLE FCT. SINCE THE  
AREA TO BE COVERED IS NOW SMALLER, IT HAS BEEN DECIDED THAT  
THE CONSULTANTS AT THE UNIVERSITY OF IFE AND AHMADU BELLO  
UNIVERSITY (ABU) ARE CAPABLE OF HANDLING THE GEOLOGICAL WORK.  
THEY ARE DUE TO SUBMIT A PROPOSED WORK PROGRAM TO  
KOKO BY THE END OF JUNE, AND HOPE TO BEGIN FIELD  
WORK IN JULY.

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3. SECOND, RESPONSIBILITY FOR HYDROLOGICAL WORK  
HAS BEEN TURNED OVER TO THE FEDERAL MINISTRY OF  
WATER RESOURCES (FWR). THE FMWR HAS ADVISED THE  
FCDA THAT THERE IS NO POINT IN CONDUCTING LENGTHY  
EXPLORATORY DRILLING FOR UNDERGROUND WATER AT THE  
ACTUAL CITY SITE, IN THE NORTHEAST CORNER OF THE FCT,  
SINCE IT IS ALREADY KNOWN THAT UNDERGROUND WATER DOES

NOT EXIST THERE, ONLY IN THE SOUTHER PART OF THE FCT. THE FMWR HAS THEREFORE RECOMMENDED MOVING AHEAD IMMEDIATELY WITH PLANS TO CONSTRUCT IMPOUNDMENTS IN THE THE CITY SITE AREA TO SUPPLY NEAR TERM WATER NEEDS, AND TO STUDY THE TRANSFER WATER FROM SHIRORO AS THE ULTIMATE SOLUTION. THE FMWR HAS ACCORDINGLY ALREADY HIRED FOREIGN CONSULTANTS FOR THESE TWO TASKS (NO MENTION OF ANY COMPETITIVE BIDDING). THEY ARE NIDANCONSULT, A DANISH-NIGERIAN JOINT VENTURE WHICH WILL WORK ON THE DESIGN OF THE TRANSFER SYSTEM FROM SHIRORO; AND H.P. GAUFF OF GERMANY, WHICH WILL CONDUCT EXPLORATION AND PREPARE DESIGNS FOR THE IMPOUNDMENTS.

4. KOKO SAID THAT THE TYPE OF ASSISTANCE HE WOULD NOW LIKE FROM THE USGS IS NOT ONE EXPERT, BUT A TEAM OF EXPERTS FROM VARIOUS DISCIPLINES TO VERIFY AND EVALUATE THE WORK OF ABU/UNIFE, NIDANCONSULT, AND H.P. GAUFF AS IT PROGRESSES. HE ENVISAGES THIS SORT OF TEAM COMING TO NIGERIA PERIODICALLY FOR A WEEK OR SO AT A TIME. KOKO, AWARE OF USGS NEED FOR CLEAR GUIDANCE, SAID HE WILL DEFINE WHAT HE WANTS IN SPECIFIC DETAIL AFTER ABU/UNIFE CONSULTANTS SUBMIT THEIR WORK PROGRAM AND AFTER HE GETS APPROVAL FOR TEAM OF EXPERTS CONCEPT FROM NEXT FCDA BOARD MEETING AT END OF THIS MONTH. HE INTENDS TO GET IN TOUCH WITH USGS IN JULY.

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5. KOO SAID HE AGREES THAT FULL SCALE REGIONAL DATA BASE FOR FCT WOULD BE DESIREABLE, BUT THAT BUDGET CUTS AND TIME DO NOT PERMIT LUXURY OF DEVELOPING SUCH A BASE NOW. HE HOPES THAT IT CAN BE DEVELOPED GRADUALLY OVER NEXT THREE OR FOUR YEARS.

6. EMBOFF MENTIONED PROBLEM OF ABU/UNIFE CONSULTANTS' ALLEGATION THAT THEY DID NOT RECEIVE PROPER ACKNOWLEDGEMENT IN USGS REPORTS, AND CITED REFERENCES GIVEN PARA-

GRAPH 2 REFTEL. EMBOFF STRESSED THAT USGS BELIEVED IT HAD TAKEN PAINS TO RECOGNIZE CONSULTANTS' WORK AND WOULD BE HAPPY TO MAKE ANY FURTHER ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS WHICH WERE APPROPRIATE IF CONSULTANTS WOULD IDENTIFY SPECIFIC OMISSIONS. KOKO, WHO WAS QUITE FRIENDLY THROUGHOUT DISCUSSION, DIDN'T SEEM TO THINK THERE WAS A SERIOUS PROBLEM AND SAID HE WOULD ASK CONSULTANTS TO BE SPECIFIC ABOUT WHAT HAD BOTHERED THEM IN ORDER TO SEE IF THERE WAS ANY SUBSTANCE TO COMPLAINT.

7. COMMENT: IN KEEPING WITH WHAT HAS BECOME A STANDARD PATTERN FOR BIG PROJECTS, IT SEEMS CLEAR

THAT FMG IS NOT GOING TO TURN GEOLOGICAL AND HYDRO-  
LOGICAL WORK ON FCT OVER TO ONE ORGANIZATION, REGARD-  
LESS OF WHETHER THAT ORGANIZATION IS EMINENTLY CAPABLE  
AND WOULD PERFORM ON A NON-COMMERCIAL BASIS. NIGERIAN  
OFFICIALS USUALLY REFLECT GREAT RELUCTANCE TO PUT ALL  
THEIR EGGS IN ONE BASKET AND ARE SUBJECTED TO A GREAT  
MANY CONFLICTING POLITICAL AND COMMERCIAL INTERESTS  
WHICH THEY MUST SATISFY, EVEN IF IT MEANS SACRIFICING  
EFFICIENCY AND COORDINATION. IN THE CASE OF THE FCDA,  
THESE PRESSURES ARE COMPOUNDED BY THE ANXIETY OF TOP  
MILITARY LEADERS TO MAKE SURE THAT THE NEW FEDERAL  
CAPITAL IS IRREVERSIBLY UNDERWAY BEFORE THEY TURN OVER  
POWER TO A CIVILIAN REGIME IN OCTOBER 1979. THUS, CON-  
SULTANTS AND EVEN CONSTRUCTION FIRMS ARE VIRTUALLY CERTAIN  
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TO BE HIRED WILLY-NILLY FROM A WIDE RANGE OF COUNTRIES  
FOR DIFFERENT SEGMENTS OF THE CAPITAL'S DEVELOPMENT WITH-  
OUT REGARD TO WHAT A DETACHED EXPERT WOULD CONSIDER TO  
BE THE IDEAL SEQUENCE OF EVENTS OR THE PREPARATION  
OF AN OPTIMAL REGIONAL DATA BASE. AT THE SAME TIME,  
THE FCDA WILL BE ANXIOUS TO HAVE A BENEVOLENT, DIS-  
INTERESTED GROUP OF EXPERTS AT ITS SIDE TO REASSURE  
IT THAT IT IS NOT BEING VICTIMIZED. THESE EXPERTS  
WILL FIND THEMSELVES IN AN UNCOMFORTABLE ROLE BE-  
CAUSE THEY WILL BE ASKED FOR THEIR PROFESSIONAL ADVICE,  
WHICH WILL NOT ALWAYS BE FOLLOWED, ABOUT A WORK PROGRAM  
WHICH THEY WOULD HAVE ORGANIZED VERY DIFFERENTLY TO  
BEGIN WITH IF THEY HAD BEEN IN CHARGE. HOWEVER, THAT  
IS THE NIGERIAN WAY. IF THE USGS CAN ACCEPT THIS, IT  
CAN STILL PLAY AN IMPORTANT AND USEFUL, IF DOUBTLESS  
FRUSTRATING, PART IN THE DEVELOPMENT OF NIGERIA'S NEW  
CAPITAL. END COMMENT.  
WYMAN(R)

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## Message Attributes

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